

# BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING



JUNE 2014



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## MAKING CONNECTIONS THAT ENCOURAGE HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVING

Being healthy and active is much easier when there are a variety of parks and trails available for use nearby. The City continues to update and revitalize its parks and trails through focused plans and implementation. This includes an update to the Alternative Transportation Plan.

Since the original plan was adopted in 2008, the City and agencies such as the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District and others have initiated numerous projects that have furthered bicycle and pedestrian transportation in and around Bloomington. The Alternative Transportation Plan update will acknowledge work done over the past five years and provide direction for future implementation and maintenance efforts.

A master plan is also being created for the Minnesota River Valley, where the City owns and maintains more than 1,000 acres of land. Work on the plan began in early 2014 and will continue through fall 2014. The key goals of the plan are to enhance access, increase awareness of the area, and ensure that trails and water bodies are protected. An open house to gather public input on the plan will be scheduled later this summer.

### Hyland Trail

Construction began this spring on the Hyland Trail, a new bike and pedestrian trail linking Hyland Park to the Bloomington Ferry Bridge. The trail will complete a missing north-south link in the regional trail system, completing a trail from Shakopee to Normandale Lake in Bloomington. The trail segment is expected to be completed by fall 2014. The April *Briefing* incorrectly noted that the trail is being partially funded by a \$1 million federal grant. The Hyland Trail is being funded by a \$540,000 federal transportation grant and a \$150,000 Department of Natural Resources Trails Grant.

### New regional trail

Construction of a seven-mile long, paved regional trail from Lake Nokomis Parkway in Minneapolis through Richfield and down Old Cedar Avenue to the 86th Street bikeway in Bloomington will also begin late this summer. The trail is a partnership among Three Rivers Park District and the cities of Bloomington, Richfield and Minneapolis. Future plans call for continuing the trail down Old Cedar Avenue to the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge over Long Meadow Lake, which is slated for reconstruction beginning in 2015.

For more information on Bloomington's many hiking and biking trails, pick up a copy of the *Active Living Biking and Hiking Guide* at the Parks and Recreation counter at Bloomington Civic Plaza or visit the City's website. For more information on the Alternative Transportation Plan, contact Parks and Recreation Manager Randy Quale at 952-563-8876 or email [parksrec@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:parksrec@BloomingtonMN.gov).

## PLAYGROUND UPDATES COMING

Reconstruction of a combination tennis and pickleball court at Indian Mounds School, 9801 11th Avenue South, and reconstruction of the tennis courts at the Valley View Playfields, 9000 Portland Avenue South, will take place this summer. The City will also be replacing aging playground equipment at DuPont Playlot, 8807 Dupont Avenue South, and Hampshire Hills Park, 10601 Louisiana Avenue South.



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## FARMERS MARKET SATURDAYS

The Bloomington Farmers Market is visited by more than 3,000 people each Saturday over the summer. Visit the City's website to watch Civic Plaza's east parking lot transform from an empty lot to a vibrant, bustling market in a special time-lapse video. The 8th annual Farmers Market opens **Saturday, June 7**, with fresh, locally grown food, cooking demonstrations and kids' activities. The Market is held at Bloomington Civic Plaza every Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., through October 11. Credit cards and EBT food support cards are now accepted.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FARMERS MARKET.







DID YOU KNOW?

Normandale Lake was created in 1979 as a flood protection project. The lake is shallow enough for aquatic plants to grow over the entire lake bed.



KEEPING NORMANDALE LAKE BEAUTIFUL



In order to keep Normandale Lake healthy as well as beautiful, the City continues to collect water quality data and monitor the lake’s overall condition. In 2008, the City petitioned Nine Mile Creek Watershed District for a water quality improvement project to address curlyleaf pondweed, an invasive aquatic plant species that contributes to increased phosphorus concentrations in the lake. However, recent lake monitoring data indicated improved water quality. In fact, data indicate lake water quality improves as water progresses through the lake from the inlet at 84th Street to the outlet at Normandale Boulevard.

This summer, City employees will work closely with the Watershed District to perform additional sampling of Normandale Lake. In an ongoing effort to control the presence of curlyleaf pondweed and other nuisance aquatic vegetation, twice a year Normandale Lake is treated with aquatic herbicides under a permit from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Minnesota state law specifically prohibits the destruction of aquatic plants for aesthetic reasons alone, such as foul odor or unpleasant appearance.

For more information, visit the City’s website or contact Engineering at 952-563-4870.

AROUND THE CITY

LOCAL OUTREACH DIRECTOR HONORED

At an April City Council meeting, Mayor Gene Winstead and Advisory Board of Health Chairperson Greg Harms presented Ruth Evangelista, at right, with the 2014 Health Promotion Award. Evangelista is director of La Misión, an outreach center based at Church of the Assumption in Richfield dedicated to improving the health and welfare of community members. Evangelista is the leader of many programs and services that support the health and wellness of approximately 5,000 Spanish- and English-speaking Bloomington and Richfield residents each year.

The Health Promotion Award recognizes an individual, business or organization that has made a positive difference in the health and wellness of Bloomington residents. For more information, call Public Health at 952-563-8900.



SEALCOATING YOUR ASPHALT DRIVEWAY?

Whether you plan to seal your own driveway or hire a contractor, be advised of a new law to protect our environment from harmful chemicals contained in coal tar-based driveway sealcoats. Effective January 2014, the sale and use of coal tar-based sealcoats are banned in all of Minnesota. The ban minimizes the release of harmful and persistent chemicals into our environment. The coal tar-based sealcoat ban is expected to reduce by 70 percent the release of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), a possible carcinogen. In addition to the potential health risks of PAHs, there are significant costs for cities and property owners to dispose of sediment in stormwater ponds that is contaminated by PAHs.

If you plan on hiring a contractor to sealcoat your driveway this summer, be sure that the material used does not contain coal tar.

For more information, visit the City’s website.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: SEALCOATING.



HOME IMPROVEMENT SEMINARS

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority will host three home improvement seminars this summer at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Each seminar begins at 7 p.m. No registration required. Door prizes will be awarded. Visit the City’s website for details.

**June 5** – Landscaping and pest control  
**July 10** – LED light selection and installation  
**August 7** – Choosing and installing the right tile

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HOME SEMINARS.

BRIEFING

Volume 22, Number 3

The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8819; TTY: 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-mail: jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov  
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Elected officials presented for informational purposes.

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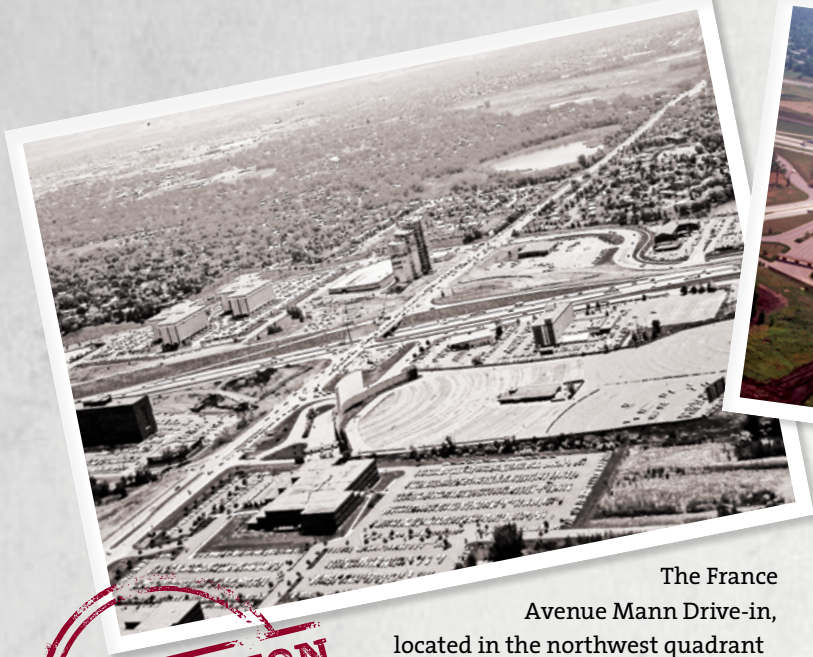
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**General phone number** 952-563-8700

The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).

Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.





**BLOOMINGTON**  
*Yesterday*

The France Avenue Mann Drive-in, located in the northwest quadrant of France and I-494, was a popular Bloomington destination from 1966 until the early 1980s. The drive-in had a capacity of 1,700 cars – pretty big for a drive-in.

© 2014 Minnesota Historical Society, Eric Mortenson

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### LET WILD ANIMALS FIND THEIR OWN FOOD

**D**id you know the City Code prohibits the feeding of wild animals in Bloomington? Feeding animals can quickly become a nuisance when feral cats, raccoons and other animals become frequent visitors. Aside from destroying lawns and gardens, some wild animals can quickly multiply. In addition, whenever wild animals become accustomed to humans feeding them, they learn that humans equal food. When wild animals think that approaching humans won't bring them harm, there is always the risk they will approach the wrong human or even a child.

The ordinance also helps prevent issues with predator wildlife such as coyotes and wild turkeys that may become aggressive during breeding season. It does not apply to feeding song birds with seed mixtures, which may be used in traditional feeders hung from trees. There are also no restrictions on the type of food that may be used, as long as the food is hung from a feeder at least five feet from the ground.

For more information, call Bloomington Animal Control at 952-953-4942.



### HUMAN SERVICES EVENTS

#### FREEDOM RIDERS EXHIBIT COMING TO CIVIC PLAZA

**T**he Human Rights Commission hosts the Guilder Lehrman Institute of American History exhibit, *Freedom Riders*, **June 23 - July 7**, at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. The exhibit features powerful accounts of how the Freedom Riders challenged the racially segregated communities of the south. Also at Civic Plaza, don't miss "Music Through the Struggle," civil rights reflections through storytelling, song and lecture, **Thursday, June 26, 6:30 - 8 p.m.**

#### ONE SUMMER NIGHT SENIOR DANCE

**E**njoy an evening of dinner and dancing on **Saturday, June 28, 5:30 - 9 p.m.**, at the Knights of Columbus Marian Hall, 1114 American Boulevard West. The event includes a pasta buffet and the music of Tim Patrick and his Blue Eyes Band. Tickets are \$20 for individuals; \$35 for couples. Dance-only tickets may be purchased for \$10. For more information, call 952-563-4944 or visit Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South.

This event is cosponsored by Miracle Ear, US Federal Credit Union and the *Sun Current*.



## ON PATROL

### FOCUS ON YOUR DRIVING WHEN BEHIND THE WHEEL

**E**ach year in Minnesota, distracted driving is a factor in one in four crashes, resulting in at least 70 deaths and 350 serious injuries. Moreover, the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety estimates these numbers are vastly underreported. Any activity that might distract drivers from the primary task of driving and increases their risk of crashing is distracted driving.

#### Facts about distracted driving

- Drivers spend more than half their driving time focused on things other than driving.
- Texting and phone calls aren't the only distractions. Passengers, eating, and other in-car technologies can also cause distractions.
- It is illegal for drivers to compose, read, or send electronic messages or access the Internet on a wireless device when a vehicle is in motion or part of traffic.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### BOOK 'EM IS BACK!

**T**he Bloomington Crime Prevention Association's (BCPA) 20th Annual Book 'em used book sale will be held **June 7 - 24**, at The Shops at Lyndale, 810 West 78th Street in Richfield. Proceeds from the sale help fund crime prevention and awareness programs, the Bloomington Police Explorers and the Bloomington Police Department.

For more information, call 952-220-2537 or visit the BCPA's website at [www.bcpamn.org](http://www.bcpamn.org).

#### A NIGHT TO REUNITE

**T**he 31st annual National Night Out celebration takes place **Tuesday, August 5**. Don't miss this chance to connect with your neighbors and show your support for local law enforcement and anti-crime efforts.

**WEBSITE KEYWORD: NNO.**



## RECREATIONAL FIRES REMINDER

**A** recreational fire is an outdoor fire used for cooking, warming or ceremonial purposes. When burning a recreational fire in your yard, use common sense, remember to be considerate of your neighbors and follow the City ordinance.

- Recreational fires may only be conducted between 7 a.m. and midnight and when the wind speed is less than 10 miles per hour. A fire must be extinguished immediately if a City official determines it is creating a fire safety hazard.
- Fires must be located at least 25 feet away from any structures or combustible materials and constantly attended to by a person within sight of the flames.
- Fire extinguishing equipment must be readily available.
- Only use dry, clean wood such as cordwood or Presto logs.
- Burning wood that has leaves or needles, or wood that is rotten, wet, or treated with paint or glue is prohibited by ordinance.
- Starter fuels may be used, but never use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start a fire.
- The fire stack must not exceed three-feet wide by two-feet high.

For more information, contact Fire Marshal Laura McCarthy at 952-563-8967.

**WEBSITE KEYWORDS: RECREATIONAL FIRES.**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**D**on't miss the following special summer events at the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center (BFAC) and Bush Lake Beach.

#### BOB THE BEACHCOMBER

Bring the kids to see Bob the Beachcomber, **Sunday, July 27, 2 - 4 p.m.**, at BFAC, 201 East 90th Street.

#### MOVIE NIGHT AT BFAC

Enjoy the classic film "Dirty Dancing" at Bush Lake Beach, **Saturday, July 12, 8:30 p.m.**



# ARTS IN THE PARKS

Make it a summer to remember. Head over to your local Bloomington parks for the best in music, dance, food, film and family entertainment. For more information, or in the case of inclement weather, call Bloomington Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8878.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: AIP.

## NORMANDALE LAKE PERFORMANCE SERIES

The following performances take place at Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Bring your appetite! There will be a variety of food and drink options at summer Blockbusters highlighted below with fork and spoon icons.

TUE  
June 10

### Minnesota Symphonic Winds

Considered one of the finest concert bands in the state, the Minnesota Symphonic Winds will kick off the Normandale Lake Performance Series with fine classical music.

TUE  
June 17

### Bend in the River Big Band

Enjoy the sounds of swinging jazz with the Bend in the River Big Band.

THUR  
June 19

### Lehto & Wright featuring Todd Menton

Steven Lehto and John Wright perform powerful, guitar-driven music based on traditional songs from the British Isles.

TUE  
June 24

### Medalist Concert Band

The Medalist Concert Band is a Bloomington favorite. Don't miss this Bloomington-based band play some of the finest concert music you'll ever hear.

THUR  
June 26

### British Invasion



The Sensational Sleepers pay tribute to fab British bands of the 1960s including The Yardbirds, The Animals, The Kinks, and The Beatles.

TUE  
July 8

### Rum River Brass Band

The Rum River Brass Band plays an eclectic repertoire, including jazz, ragtime, pop, Dixieland and more.

THUR  
July 10

### 80s Music Explosion



Break out your jelly shoes and hairspray! Brat Pack Radio is back to play all of your dance-pop favorites and R&B hits from the 1980s.

TUE  
July 15

### Eden Prairie Community Band

The Eden Prairie Community Band is more than 50 musicians strong. The group is home for the Prairie Schooners and a number of woodwind and brass ensembles.

THUR  
July 17

### Monroe Crossing



Monroe Crossing dazzles audiences with an electrifying blend of classic bluegrass, bluegrass gospel and heartfelt originals.

TUE  
July 22

### Jason and the Q

Jason and the Q is a four-piece jazz outfit, featuring some of the finest jazz musicians in the Twin Cities.

THUR  
July 24

### Latin Music Night



Salsa del Soul performs a variety of dance music from the Spanish-speaking regions of the Caribbean, including Son Montuno, Plena, Cha-cha-cha, Bachata, Timba, and of course, Salsa!

TUE  
July 29

### Everett Smithson Band

The Everett Smithson Band features some of the best zydeco, blues, rockin roots and gospel you'll hear out side of New Orleans.

THUR  
July 31

### Suburban Country



With an inimitable blend of the country, rock, blues and folk genres, Maiden Dixie guarantees an exciting and enthusiastic live performance that is sure to get your feet tapping.

TUE  
Aug 5

### Jack Norton and the Mullet River Boys

The Mullet River Boys are musical purveyors of vintage vaudeville, jug band and ragtime bluegrass music that is sure to get you moving.

THUR  
Aug 7

### Blues and Bar-B-Q



The C-Notes take to the stage at 7 p.m., at the annual Blues and Bar-B-Q festival, followed by The Groove Merchants featuring Jimi "Primetime" Smith. Come ready to groove and eat!



## MONDAY MORNING KIDS SERIES

Make your Mondays more enjoyable with the Monday Morning Kids Series. Bring the kids to Moir Park, 2298 West 104th Street, for awesome entertainment. All shows begin at 10:30 a.m.

June 16 – MN Zoomobile

June 23 – Tricia and the Toonies

June 30 – Sticks and Tones

July 7 – Wiggle, Jiggle & Jam

July 14 – Jack Pearson

July 21 – Dazzling Dave

July 28 – Rachael Kroog

August 4 – Zinghoppers



## MOONLIGHT MOVIES IN THE PARK

Why watch movies indoors when you can view them on our 30-foot outdoor movie screen at Normandale Lake Bandshell.

June and July movies begin at 9 p.m.

August movies begin at 8:30 p.m.

Don't forget to bring a blanket!

June 13 – "Despicable Me 2"

June 20 – "American Graffiti"

June 27 – "Frozen"

July 11 – "Monsters University"

July 12 – "Dirty Dancing" (at Bush Lake Beach)

July 18 – "Pitch Perfect"

July 25 – "Jurassic Park"

August 1 – "Back to the Future"

August 8 – "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire"

August 15 – "Gravity"



## SUMMER FETE 2014



Bloomington's annual Independence Day celebration is scheduled for **Thursday, July 3, 5 p.m.**, at Normandale Lake Bandshell. This year, Jonah and the Whales and the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra will perform on the main stage. The 84th Street Kids' Stage will welcome Tricia and the Toonies and the Zinghoppers. The Kids' Carnival begins at 5 p.m. Fireworks begin at dusk.

For a complete schedule of events, visit the City's website. To make a donation or order a t-shirt, look for the envelope in your utility bill or call 952-563-8693.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: SUMMER FETE.



## SANDCASTLES

Calling all competitors! Get creative with sand at the annual Sandcastles competition at Bush Lake Beach, **Sunday, June 29, noon - 3 p.m.**

## JOHN PHILIP SOUSA BAND

The John Philip Sousa Band will perform **Sunday, June 22, 7 p.m.**, at the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, 401 East 104th Street.



# CORPORATE REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013, AND BUDGET YEAR 2014



## INSIDE

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Enterprise, Internal Service and  
Special Revenue Funds.

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Capital Projects and  
Debt Service.

WHEN YOU SEE "WEBSITE KEYWORDS,"  
GO TO [BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV](http://BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV) FOR MORE  
INFORMATION.

## The Art of Creating Community

### A PLACE WE'RE PROUD TO CALL HOME

By Mayor Gene Winstead

Anyone who lives, works or visits here knows that Bloomington has a lot to offer. Most of what people say they love about this place is the result of years, even decades, of vision and focused implementation. The City's long-term vision is to make Bloomington a stronger and more sustainable community. The City accomplishes this by providing quality services at an affordable price and supporting the long-term property investments residents and businesses have made in Bloomington.

This year's theme, *The Art of Creating Community*, speaks to how we all work together to create a place we are proud to call home. The concept is called "placemaking," which inspires people to create and improve their public and private places. We are all artists in creating community. *See pages CR4 and CR5.*

The City of Bloomington conducted another in-depth community survey in 2013, in which thousands of residents were contacted to get their opinions of Bloomington as a place to live and work. The National Research Center

out of Boulder, CO, administered the survey that allowed us to compare results from 500 cities surveyed by the National Research Center and a select group of 21 high performance peer cities like Bloomington, which are similar to us in population, demographics and employment base. Bloomington's rankings were "much above" the ranking of the 500 national cities polled. *See page CR4.*

In 2013, the City made many strides toward our vision for a better Bloomington. Progress continues, as evidenced by the many new businesses, hotels, restaurants and housing options in our city. The City Council, in adopting its property tax levy of \$48,049,784, achieved its 2014 budget objective of keeping the monthly property tax-supported cost for the median value home of \$188,000 at \$67.82, essentially the same level since 2010. Since 1990, the City's property tax levy has averaged a 2.22 percent annual increase on existing properties, which was below the average rate of inflation.

Overall, 2013 was a strong year for new starts, especially for residential and hotel development. In fact, 2013, like 2012, was another record year for permits issued in Bloomington.

New development projects are taking place in the City's South Loop, Penn American and Normandale Lake districts. *See page CR5.*

Additional renewal efforts will improve our transportation systems and create higher-density, pedestrian-friendly communities.

Efforts to move the city closer to its *Imagine Bloomington 2025* vision of being a more sustainable, dynamic community with a variety of recreation opportunities, housing options, revitalized commercial areas and quality services, will continue to be a priority for 2014.

### Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

PRESENTED TO

City of Bloomington  
Minnesota

for the Fiscal Year Ended  
December 31, 2013



Christopher P. Morrell  
President  
Jeffrey L. Easer  
Executive Director

### FINANCIAL AWARDS

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has given the City of Bloomington the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. This national award recognizes the City's conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. The City has received the Popular Award for 14 years, the Distinguished Budget Award for 18 years and the Certificate of Excellence in Government Reporting for the past 43 years.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS ONLINE

Check out the financial reports on the City's website. The 2013 estimated expenditures in this report will be changed to reflect actual expenditures after the City's audit is completed in June.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: FINANCE.



### THROUGHOUT THIS REPORT

The monthly expenses for City services described in this report are based on a median-priced home with monthly property taxes for City services of \$67.82.





# STRONG VALUE FOR YOUR DOLLAR

## PROPERTY TAX-SUPPORTED SERVICES

These paint splotches include the monthly cost of property tax-supported services and show how it is divided among City departments.



## PUTTING YOUR TAX DOLLARS TO WORK WHAT THE OWNER OF A MEDIAN-VALUE HOME PAYS



## CITY OF BLOOMINGTON ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Bloomington's Charter provides for a council-manager government. The stability of our organization is reflected in the City having only two city managers in the last 47 years. The City Council and Mayor, who serve part time, are elected by the people, exercise legislative power and determine overall City policies. Advisory boards and commissions gather information and advise the City Council on specific issues. Policy development and day-to-day operations are directed by the Council-appointed City Manager. The City Manager oversees the eight departments and the Technical Services Group that carry out the services, activities and policies of the City of Bloomington.



## WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“I love working here. We have a great location and great customers.”  
Corey Lake,  
Topper's Pizza employee



Residents receive a variety of City services for an affordable price. The cost of City services in 2014 for the owner of a median-priced, single-family home in Bloomington with an assessor's market value of \$188,000 is \$67.82 per month.

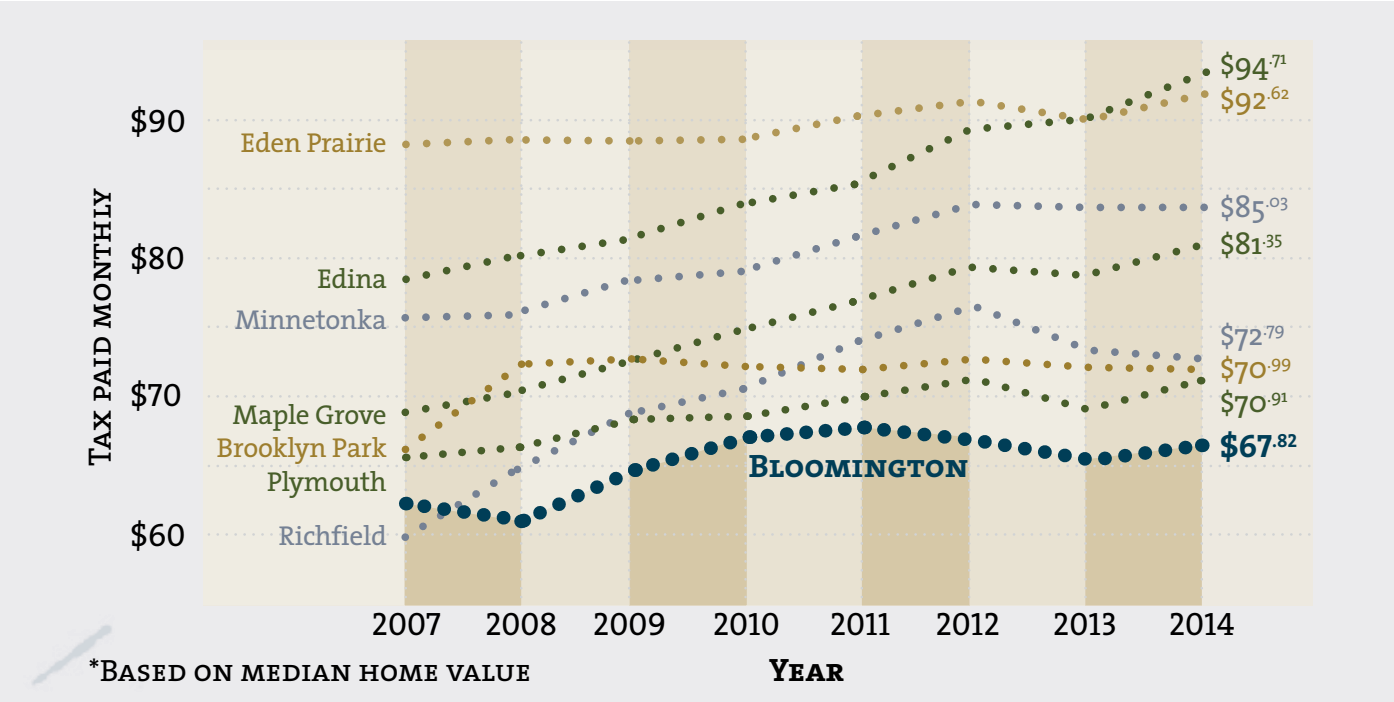
Tax-supported services are ranked by the City Council. Public Safety services such as Police and Fire activities are ranked highest for funding. Community Safety, Planning, Prevention and Maintenance are the next level of services to be funded. These include Engineering, Environmental Health, Planning, Parks Maintenance and Emergency Response. The third category is Quality of Life services such as Parks and Recreation, Human Services, Public Health, Aquatics, Special Events and the Center for the Arts. The tax cost per month of \$67.82 is the amount left for tax support after allocating grants, program fees, lodging and admission taxes and other non-property tax revenue to the appropriate services.

### Monthly cost of utilities

Based on an average water usage of 6,800 gallons per month and sewer usage of 4,740 gallons per month, the monthly cost of utilities for a home in Bloomington is \$41.79 in 2014. Services include water, sewer, stormwater and solid waste.  
*Note: Utility bills are mailed bimonthly and average \$83.58 for the two-month billing cycle.*

## MEETING DEMANDS WITH QUALITY CITY SERVICES BLOOMINGTON RANKS WELL IN COMPARISON

The City continues to meet the needs of its residents while constantly looking for ways to improve quality and keep costs affordable. In a 2013 comparison of seven Hennepin County peer communities with more than 20,000 residents, the monthly cost of City services for a single-family home in Bloomington ranked lowest at \$66.04. The *graph below* illustrates the cost-effectiveness of Bloomington services in terms of what the owner of a median-value home pays in the metro area. Bloomington is very cost competitive even when compared to newer communities such as Plymouth and Maple Grove that are just starting infrastructure renewal that Bloomington began almost 20 years ago.



31¢ Hennepin County  
30¢ City of Bloomington  
31¢ Bloomington School District  
8¢ Other agencies

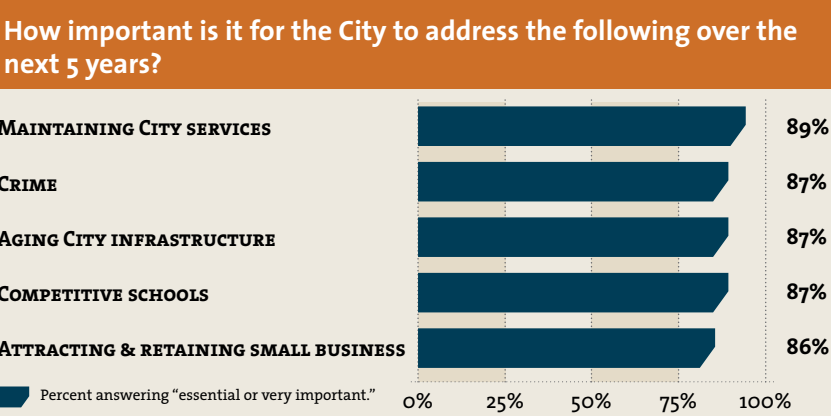
## YOUR 2014 TAX DOLLAR

The single-family residential tax dollar is divided among several governmental entities. As the graphic at left shows, for every dollar of taxes paid, 30 cents are for City services. The actual amount of taxes owed is based on market value, tax law and the levy. The levy for all local governmental entities is spread across properties within each entity's respective boundaries using tax capacity, a function of market value and property type. While the City sets a total property tax dollar amount to be levied, as all local Minnesota jurisdictions do, the amount each property pays of that amount is solely a function of the State of Minnesota property tax law based on market value and tax classification. After applying educational aids, a Bloomington homeowner with a median-value home pays \$2,738 in property taxes. Of that, \$814, or \$67.82 per month, goes to the City for services. The remaining \$1,924 or \$160.33 a month goes to other taxing districts.



# WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO RESIDENTS?

In 2013, the City conducted a second community survey, *see page 4*, to help guide its strategic planning and vision. One of the questions asked in the survey was “How important is it for the City to address the following over the next 5 years?” Here are the top five actions residents said are essential or very important to address.



## MAINTAINING CITY SERVICES

Maintaining City services is the most important area to address over the next five years according to survey respondents. To ensure Bloomington remains a vibrant and healthy community, the City Council reviews and prioritizes all property tax-supported City services. The City’s goal is to provide quality services to residents at an affordable cost. In 2014, the owner of a median-valued, single-family home will pay \$67.82 in monthly property taxes. Because the City is financially strong, it is able to continue to provide essential and quality of life services to the community at a competitive cost to residents.

Considering the especially cold and snowy winter this year, perhaps nowhere is the value of City services more apparent than in its snowplowing. *See infograph above.*

## ADDRESSING CRIME THROUGH COMMUNITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS

The issue of crime was considered by survey respondents to be the second most important issue to address over the next five years. Essential City services such as public safety make up almost 65 percent of City property tax costs and are provided to all single-family homeowners equally. Residents ranked public safety programs #3 in comparison to 21 other high-performing cities. The Bloomington Police Department has a number of outreach programs and initiatives. Through the Multicultural Advisory Committee and other programs such as National Night Out and Neighborhood Watch, the BPD encourages partnerships with community groups, businesses and schools that make Bloomington a safer place.

## RENEWING OUR CITY

As a community ages, so does its infrastructure. Much of Bloomington’s infrastructure, including streets, utilities and more, was built decades ago. The City has many programs in place to address aging infrastructure. These include the

Seventy-five percent of Bloomington residents rated the overall quality of new development as excellent or good.

Pavement Management Program that strategically plans for and implements the repair and replacement of streets, and the Comprehensive Asset Management Program

that prioritizes the replacement of water mains, sewers, water towers and more. *See the Water Quality Report cover story for more information.*

Updating commercial areas also plays a major part in revitalizing the city. The value of commercial and industrial building construction totaled \$62 million in 2013 and the City is on track to have another record year in 2014. Infrastructure improvements are being planned or constructed in the city’s South Loop, Normandale Lake and Penn American districts.

## KEEPING OUR SCHOOLS COMPETITIVE

In the 2013 survey, Bloomington residents rated schools as the fourth most important area for the City to address over the

Nine Bloomington schools are Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence.

next five years. There is much evidence to suggest that strong schools support strong neighborhoods. Bloomington public schools are focused on academic excellence. Nine Bloomington schools are Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence and another six have received Minnesota School of Excellence designation. Their distinction is due in large part to dedicated and talented teachers, who consistently earn state and national recognition for their efforts in educational excellence.

The variety of higher educational opportunities in Bloomington also supports strong neighborhoods and continues to grow. Northwestern Health Sciences University, North American University, Ausburg College, Rasmussen College, Strayer University, University of St. Thomas and Bethel University all have classrooms in Bloomington.

## ATTRACTING AND RETAINING SMALL BUSINESSES

Employment is an important indicator of a healthy economy and thriving community. Bloomington’s unemployment rate is lower than the nation, the state and the metro region. For those looking to start or expand their small business in Bloomington, Bloomington Port Authority and Hennepin County HRA have joined forces to offer the Open to Business program. Through the program, the nonprofit, Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, provides free one-on-one technical assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs. The City also assists eligible businesses with Hennepin County and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development grants and loans.

A number of Bloomington businesses are breaking new ground or expanding their facilities:

- Open Access Technology International plans to break ground on a 100,000-square-foot office and data center at I-494 and Normandale Boulevard.
- Toro is building a 75,000 square foot office addition northwest of their existing building on Lyndale Avenue.
- Mall of America has broken ground on a \$250 million expansion that will include a JW Marriott hotel with 342 rooms and additional stores.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The City keeps you up-to-date on all of the above and more through the *Briefing*. The *Briefing* is published six times per year at a cost of only 27 cents per issue, including printing and mailing.



## WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“I grew up in Bloomington. I like it here. American Boulevard is a great location. We have a lot of dedicated customers. I see a lot of the same faces every day and it’s nice. Bloomington is a very tight-knit community.”

Kevin Hirman, President, Denny’s 5th Avenue Bakery





# WHAT MAKES BLOOMINGTON A GREAT COMMUNITY?

## BLOOMINGTON RECEIVES HIGH MARKS

In 2013, the City of Bloomington conducted another in-depth community survey, in which thousands of residents were contacted to get their opinions of Bloomington as a place to live and work. The National Research Center out of Boulder, Colorado, administered the survey that allowed us to compare results from 500 cities and a select group of 21 high performance peer cities similar to Bloomington in demographics and employment base.

These rankings were much above the ranking of the 500 national cities polled, including:

95% Rate Bloomington as an excellent or good place to live

#5 Among peer cities

94% Rate the overall quality of life here as excellent or good

#4 Among peer cities

90% Would recommend Bloomington as an excellent or good place to live

#3 Among peer cities

For complete survey results, visit the City's website.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: SURVEY.

## WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“Great arts reflect a great city. Bloomington plays second fiddle to no one when it comes to its love for music, dance, drama and the visual arts.”

Manny Laureano, Artistic Director, Bloomington Symphony Orchestra



In Bloomington, quality of life is high. Our community offers some of the best of everything: a variety of housing, cultural and educational opportunities; retail, small businesses and Fortune 500 companies; a wide range of parks, trails, and downhill skiing, and much more. Bloomington is a great place to raise a family, work and enjoy life. Community-building goes beyond the arts, extending to development, citywide events, programs and services – anything that brings people together to make the community a more vibrant place. What do you love about Bloomington?



## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE GATHERING SPOT OR EVENT?

Bloomington has a number of events that bring the community together to celebrate and rejuvenate. Here's a look at some of the 2013 attendance numbers. Which one is your favorite?

- 350 Neighborhoods registered for National Night Out parties.
- 3,000 People attended the summer Farmers Market each Saturday.
- 2,000 People braved the cold for Winter Fete fun.
- 40,000 People gathered at Normandale Lake for Summer Fete.



The art of...

## PROVIDING PLACES FOR PEOPLE TO RELAX AND ENJOY

In order to thrive, complete communities need the arts, creativity and open spaces where people can relax and regenerate. We have many places like this in Bloomington, including the corner of 98th Street and West Old Shakopee Road where you'll find Bloomington Civic Plaza. More than a government office building, Bloomington Civic Plaza is a place alive with people, music, art, and during the Farmers Market, plenty of delicious, locally grown food and goods.

The Center for the Arts makes it possible to enjoy plays, performances, exhibits and classes all under one roof. The facility is used by nine resident art organizations, the City, and many community groups for arts activities, special events and private rentals. We've done it before, and now we're in a position to do it again in the South Loop. See below.

Creekside Community Center is another location where many people gather for senior programs, community meetings and events. The City is currently exploring options for a new community center to replace Creekside.

## PLACEMAKING IN THE SOUTH LOOP

From the Farmers Market to Bloomington Central Station Park, placemaking is not new to Bloomington. In the South Loop, placemaking efforts continue to set the stage for a transformation in the district.

The City and Bloomington Theatre and Art Center (BTAC) were awarded a two-year, \$100,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to bring more creative placemaking projects to the South Loop.

Along with the grant, more than \$100,000 has been secured in matching funds to develop a long-term creative

### WHAT IS CREATIVE PLACEMAKING?

Creative placemaking is a new and fast-growing approach to enhancing community and economic development through arts, culture and community.

placemaking plan and commission four to six art projects that demonstrate the role art and artists can play in transforming the South Loop District. The City is partnering with BTAC, Mall of America, McGough Development, the Bloomington Convention and Visitor's Bureau and others on the projects that will show how public art and creativity can make the South Loop more interesting.

Community members are invited to get involved by becoming a project host, an artist, or a volunteer participant. For more information, e-mail [placemaking@BTACMN.org](mailto:placemaking@BTACMN.org) or call 952-563-8575.

### GET INVOLVED! WIN A PRIZE!

The City of Bloomington, along with project partners, will be hosting a South Loop charrette – an intense period of design and planning – June 12 - 20. There will be presentations, idea-sharing, art-making and a competition for an Idea Prize worth \$1,000. All are welcome to attend. For more information, visit [BTACMN.org/placemaking](http://BTACMN.org/placemaking).



# WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER BLOOMINGTON



*The art of...*

## MAKING CONNECTIONS THROUGH PARKS AND TRAILS

Bloomington is full of parks and trails that offer endless opportunities for walking, hiking, biking, cross-country skiing and more. Bloomington is home to 97 parks and nearly 20 miles of park trails that are maintained by the City. A number of new park improvement projects are slated for 2014.

- Construction of a new concession and restroom building at Toro Grandstand at Red Haddock Field will take place this summer.
- On the east side of Bloomington, a seven-mile-long, paved, multi-use regional trail from Lake Nokomis Parkway in Minneapolis through Richfield and down Old Cedar Avenue to the 86th Street Bikeway in Bloomington will be constructed. Construction is anticipated to begin this summer with completion by mid-2015. The trail is a partnership among Three Rivers Park District and the cities of Bloomington, Richfield and Minneapolis.
- On the west side of Bloomington, Hyland Trail, an off-road, multi-use trail along Bush Lake Road, West 106th Street and Bloomington Ferry Road, will be constructed this summer. The Hyland Trail will link existing trail systems from Hyland Lake Park Reserve to the planned Minnesota Valley State Trail as well as to trails developing in Scott County. Construction is anticipated to be completed by fall 2014.



*The art of...*

## BUILDING COMMUNITY FROM THE GROUND UP

Updates and improvements designed to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety, as well as attract more visitors and businesses to Bloomington, literally build community from the ground up. **Nearly 85 percent of the City's future residential and commercial growth potential is in three districts: South Loop, Normandale Lake and Penn American.** The following are just some of the district improvements underway in 2014.

### South Loop District

- The City, Mall of America (MOA) and project developers recently broke ground on MOA's next phase. The expansion project includes a 342-room JW Marriott hotel and 100,000 square feet of additional retail and underground parking, as well as multi-story office building to be constructed on top of the underground parking.
- The Lindau Lane extension project will create a walkable street for pedestrian-friendly storefront development between the Mall of America and Bloomington Central Station. Construction is expected to be completed in mid-2015.
- Construction on 30th Avenue between American Boulevard and East Old Shakopee Road will convert a private access area to a public street that connects Lindau Lane to north and south arterial streets. Construction is expected to be completed in mid- 2015.

### Normandale Lake District

- Covington Apartments on Green Valley Drive, just north of Normandale Lake Boulevard is nearing completion. The development includes 250 luxury rental apartments.
- The Luxembourg, a 282-unit luxury apartment development, is under construction just west of Normandale Boulevard and north of West 84th Street. The apartments are anticipated to be ready for occupancy by early 2015.

### Penn American District

- The City Council adopted the Penn American District Plan in January 2014 and is proceeding with rezoning to implement the plan's vision. United Properties' Penn American District Phase 2 began this spring and includes a 108-room Hilton hotel with a restaurant and retail on the first floor, a grocery store and underground parking.

*The art of...*

## SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

Bloomington Public Works recently received the American Public Works Association (APWA) 2014 Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award. Established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works snow and ice operations, the award is given annually to a city or county public works agency that practices and promotes effective snow and ice removal while minimizing environmental impacts. The prestigious award was presented at the APWA North American Snow Conference in Cincinnati on May 5.

The award came on the heels of an especially difficult winter for Public Works crews who had to contend with more than 69 inches of snowfall and unusually brutal cold temperatures – 53 days at or below zero. Snowplow operator Chris Myers, pictured above, said the hardest part of his job this winter was working in the extreme cold temperatures and dealing with a lack of sleep because of all the 2 a.m. morning shifts.

## WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“I grew up in Bloomington, so I feel a special connection to the community. Bloomington is really representative of the diversity of the Twin Cities. We have an excellent location here. I really appreciate how easily accessible we are to the surrounding communities.”

Jill Measells,  
CEO, The Works







2014 OPERATING REVENUE SOURCES

The City’s major funds fall into the categories of General, Enterprise, Debt Service, Capital Projects, Internal Service and Special Revenue. Shown on the next three pages, these funds demonstrate how quality City services provide a good value for your tax dollar.

Bloomington’s competitive property tax cost is maintained by utilizing, as appropriate, other funding sources, continuing to encourage growth of the City’s diverse tax base and looking at new ways to bolster productivity. By diversifying revenue, the City is in a strong position to withstand economic shifts.

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Property taxes      | \$45,958,416  |
| Fees/charges        | 28,026,736    |
| Program income      | 7,734,582     |
| Lodging/admissions  | 7, 416,550    |
| Transfers/other     | 4,392,328     |
| Intergovernmental   | 4,558,609     |
| Licenses/permits    | 4,964,425     |
| Special assessments | 3,434,747     |
| Fines/forfeitures   | 1,388,000     |
| Franchise fee       | 1,360,400     |
| Total revenues      | \$109,234,793 |

2014 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES BY FUND

The City of Bloomington’s budgeted expenditures for 2014 total \$115,195,336.\*

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| General Fund          | \$61,452,110  |
| Enterprise Funds      | 38,305,029    |
| Special Revenue Funds | 7,774,877     |
| Debt Service Funds    | 7,663,320     |
| Total expenditures    | \$115,195,336 |

\* The \$5,960,543 difference between 2014 revenues and expenditures is the planned expenditure(s) of reserves for Capital Projects, see page CR 8.

WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“Bloomington is a settled community and the taxes are reasonable. I own a dog, so I appreciate all the open spaces and trails. And from the

Farmers Market to the Curbside Cleanup, everything is well run!”

Marlene Robertson, 30-year resident



THE GENERAL FUND

The General Fund, which accounts for a majority of City services, is Bloomington’s primary operating fund. It uses current revenues to fulfill current expense obligations. This section contains specific information about each department within the General Fund. Net gains in one year help reduce future property tax increases.

|                                    | 2012 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES  | 2013 BUDGET  | 2013 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | 2014 BUDGET  | ESTIMATED NET PROPERTY TAX* |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| POLICE                             | \$20,101,497  | \$21,476,272 | \$21,254,659                | \$22,503,349 | \$23.95                     |
|                                    | The Police Department works with the community to make Bloomington a safe place to live and partners with residents and businesses to address their diverse needs.  |              |                             |              |                             |
| PUBLIC WORKS                       | 9,043,005   | 9,817,082    | 9,820,699                   | 10,074,246   | 14.02**                     |
|                                    | Public Works provides safe and efficient transportation routes throughout Bloomington, provides snowplowing services, maintains the City’s streets, parks, vehicles and public facilities, and reviews the impact construction and development projects will have on local and regional infrastructure. <i>Starting in 2012, Parks Maintenance is funded in Community Services.</i> |              |                             |              |                             |
| COMMUNITY SERVICES                 | 11,141,260  | 12,470,305   | 12,035,176                  | 12,331,880   | 13.48†                      |
|                                    | Community Services offers human services programs, manages parks and recreational activities, produces communication materials and provides public health services.   |              |                             |              |                             |
| COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT              | 6,011,428   | 6,641,010    | 6,477,924                   | 6,985,873    | 4.50                        |
|                                    | Community Development partners with the community to enhance Bloomington through planning, economic development and redevelopment activities. The department promotes health and safety by obtaining compliance with state and City codes.  |              |                             |              |                             |
| FIRE                               | 2,717,241   | 3,187,789    | 3,320,968                   | 3,192,258    | 3.92                        |
|                                    | The Fire Department protects the community by performing rescues; responding to fires, emergencies and hazardous materials incidents; and teaching fire prevention.   |              |                             |              |                             |
| TECHNICAL SERVICES                 | 2,347,620   | 2,609,782    | 2,623,184                   | 2,694,522    | ***                         |
|                                    | Technical Services furnishes licensing, assessment, elections, records management and cemetery services to Bloomington’s residents as well as internal technology support to City departments.  |              |                             |              |                             |
| LEGAL                              | 1,085,079   | 1,222,521    | 1,203,931                   | 1,285,931    | ***                         |
|                                    | Legal prosecutes misdemeanors and advises the City Manager, City Council, City departments, and advisory boards and commissions.  |              |                             |              |                             |
| FINANCE                            | 853,811   | 1,041,153    | 1,007,740                   | 1,087,212    | ***                         |
|                                    | Finance provides financial management and internal support services to other departments.   |              |                             |              |                             |
| HUMAN RESOURCES                    | 601,036   | 637,059      | 578,490                     | 670,161      | ***                         |
|                                    | Human Resources recruits and assists in hiring staff, oversees employee benefit programs and conducts employee relations activities on behalf of the City.  |              |                             |              |                             |
| COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS, CITY MANAGER | 670,666   | 903,801      | 736,971                     | 918,912      | ***                         |
|                                    | Legislative power is vested in an elected, part-time City Council consisting of a mayor and six councilmembers, which appoints citizens to advisory commissions. A city manager administers City business, appoints all other employees and performs duties as directed by the Council.   |              |                             |              |                             |
| CONTINGENCY/ ESTIMATED UNSPENT     | (20,000)  | (569,486)    | (50,000)                    | (539,184)    |                             |
| TOTAL                              | 54,592,643  | 59,437,288   | 59,109,742                  | 61,142,160†† |                             |

- \* Net property tax is the portion of the levy allocated to these services per month for the median-valued home. For the net property tax calculation, departments with programs that generate fee revenue have that revenue applied to their budget before property tax. Out of the \$67.82 the owner of a median-valued home pays for City services, \$56.20 goes to the General Fund.
- \*\* Includes \$871,031 in a separate levy for the Pavement Management Program.
- \*\*\* These administrative services are allocated to other General Fund budgets and programs.
- † Recreational facilities funding is \$2.20 of this total.
- †† Does not include \$309,950 transfer out.



A SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT – THREE TRIPLE-A RATINGS

Bloomington ranks with an elite few cities nationwide in holding three triple-A bond ratings. The City maintains its Aaa status from Moody’s, AAA from Standard & Poor’s and AAA from Fitch Ratings, the highest bond ratings awarded by these agencies.

Bloomington is one of only 27 cities out of more than 19,000 municipal governments in the U.S. that have achieved three triple-A ratings. Our city is currently the only city in Minnesota to hold all three highest ratings.

According to the agencies, our triple-A status reflects the City’s conservative fiscal management, diverse economic base, central location, low unemployment rates that fall below state and national averages, and continued success in the Mall of America tax increment district.

The City’s excellent bond ratings signal current and potential investors that our financial future is strong and ensure interest costs will remain low. They also signal to businesses and individuals that Bloomington is a financially healthy community.



PREPARING TO MEET CHALLENGES

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

These funds consist of utilities, recreational facilities, contractual police services and motor vehicle licensing primarily supported by user fees.

|                    |                          | 2012<br>OPERATING<br>EXPENSES | 2013<br>BUDGET | 2013 OPERATING<br>EXPENSES | 2014<br>BUDGET | AVERAGE FEES<br>PER MONTH |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| COMMUNITY SERVICES | RECREATIONAL FACILITIES  | \$5,332,948                   | \$5,893,960    | \$5,400,202                | \$5,286,550    | \$2.20*                   |
| PUBLIC SAFETY      | CONTRACTUAL POLICE       | 586,649                       | 550,000        | 620,702                    | 600,000        | --                        |
| PUBLIC WORKS       | SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT   | 1,122,889                     | 1,440,263      | 1,227,066                  | 1,377,591      | 2.54**                    |
|                    | STORMWATER UTILITY       | 3,176,026                     | 6,042,570      | 3,219,208                  | 6,089,003      | 5.72                      |
|                    | WATER/WASTEWATER UTILITY | 21,891,982                    | 22,894,198     | 22,737,924                 | 24,320,350     | 33.47***                  |
| TECHNICAL SERVICES | MOTOR VEHICLE OFFICE     | 580,635                       | 610,403        | 623,713                    | 631,535        | --                        |

- \* Amount is included in the \$13.48 that the property owner of a median-value home pays in property taxes for Community Services per month.
- \*\* Not including a \$0.61 recycling credit residents receive per month from a county grant.
- \*\*\* Rates are based on Bloomington’s average winter use of 6,800 gallons per month.

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

These funds finance interdepartmental goods and services on a cost-reimbursement basis from a variety of end-user funds. Internal Service Funds are supported by interdepartmental user fees already included as expenses to other funds in this report.

|  | 2012 OPERATING<br>EXPENSES | 2013<br>BUDGET | 2013 OPERATING<br>EXPENSES | 2014<br>BUDGET |
|--|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| BENEFIT ACCRUAL                        | \$1,586,655                | \$1,959,341    | \$1,959,340                | \$1,398,128    |
| EQUIPMENT FUND                         | 5,400,280                  | 5,939,961      | 6,119,165                  | 7,003,551      |
| FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT | 8,743,932                  | 10,581,433     | 9,567,643                  | 11,096,953     |
| INFORMATION SYSTEMS                    | 3,633,825                  | 5,207,304      | 4,050,290                  | 6,765,449      |
| INSURED BENEFITS                       | 7,768,808                  | 8,236,615      | 8,207,552                  | 8,568,100      |
| PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO                    | 629,093                    | 622,884        | 448,084                    | 318,184        |
| SELF-INSURANCE                         | 1,513,610                  | 2,076,966      | 2,076,966                  | 1,650,469      |
| SUPPORT SERVICES                       | 475,225                    | 507,591        | 495,524                    | 499,152        |

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

These funds account for revenues used for specific purposes including housing and community development, communications, public health initiatives and law enforcement activities.

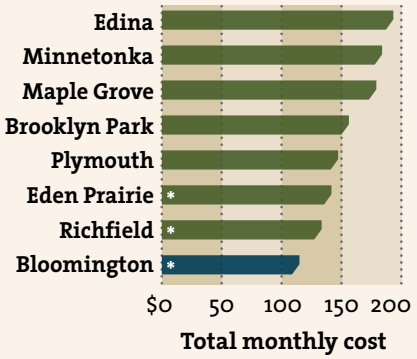
|                       |                                 | 2012 TOTAL<br>EXPENDITURES | 2013<br>BUDGET | 2013 TOTAL<br>EXPENDITURES | 2014<br>BUDGET | FUNDING                                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|--|
| COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | SOUTH LOOP ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW | \$5,412                    | \$66,720       | \$7,697                    | \$348,000      | Environmental review fees                    |
| COMMUNITY SERVICES    | COMMUNICATIONS                  | 1,294,311                  | 1,566,606      | 1,371,583                  | 1,501,049      | Franchise fee/other fund charges             |
|                       | PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIAL REVENUE   | 1,575,045                  | 1,882,741      | 1,661,735                  | 1,538,528      | State grants                                 |
|                       | PARK GRANTS                     | 83,840                     | 106,000        | 11,254                     | 113,000        | State and federal grants                     |
| PUBLIC SAFETY         | PUBLIC SAFETY SPECIAL REVENUE   | 2,959,570                  | 3,792,086      | 3,633,821                  | 3,738,764      | Forfeited assets and grants                  |
|                       | FIRE GRANTS                     | 225,239                    | 159,308        | 159,308                    |                | and one-time reimbursement*/property taxes** |
| CITY CLERK            | CEMETERY TRUST                  | 10,661                     | 2,547          | 2,547                      | 535,536        | Lot sales                                    |
| PUBLIC WORKS          | ENERGY EFFICIENCY BLOCK GRANT   | 20,235                     | 22,534         | 22,534                     | 0              | State and federal grants                     |

- \* Used for specific police capital and operating expenses.
- \*\* If the City is required to fund Bloomington’s Fire Pension Fund, the tax levy will generally be the funding source.

2013 RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX, WATER AND SEWER RATE SURVEY

In 2013, the monthly costs to residents in eight cities for single-family property taxes, plus water, sewer and water-softening services ranged from \$194 in Edina (including in-home, water-softening costs) to \$122 in Bloomington for City-softened water.

2013 MONTHLY COSTS FOR PROPERTY TAXES, WATER, SEWER AND WATER-SOFTENING SERVICES



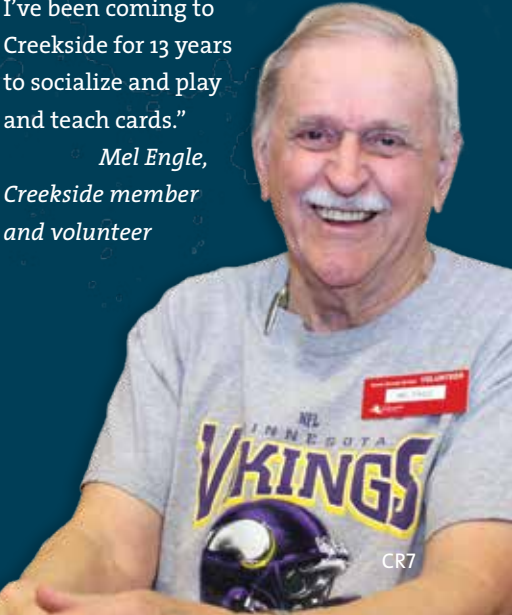
Costs are based on a single-family residence. Water and sewer rates are based on 7,500 gallons (average based on the 2013 Residential Water and Sewer Rate survey.)

- \* Cities, including Bloomington, that soften water before distribution.

Minnesota state law, Chapter 156 of the Session Laws of 2005, requires that “a city or county with a population of more than 15,000 must annually notify its residents of the positions and base salaries of its three highest-paid employees.” For the City of Bloomington, names, titles and salaries are: Mark Bernhardson, City Manager – \$154,569; Karl Keel, Public Works Director – \$156,148; and Larry Lee, Director of Community Development – \$150,306.

WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“I love the variety of activities, and especially the people at Creekside. Everyone is great from the staff to the members. I’ve been coming to Creekside for 13 years to socialize and play and teach cards.”  
Mel Engle, Creekside member and volunteer







## CAPITAL PROJECTS

Capital Projects purchase and improve major assets such as land, structures, equipment and streets. Capital project fund expenditures are incorporated into the budget process and developed based on City Council appropriation.

### PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS

In 2014, the following park and facilities projects will take place.

- \$1.2 million for improvements to the Normandale Lake Park Chalet Road parking lot. The reconstruction includes stormwater, lighting and driveway improvements to service the updated Hyland Ski Jump area. Landscaping will change from mowed turf to native plantings to reduce maintenance costs.
- \$1.27 million for construction of Hyland Trail, a new bike and pedestrian trail linking Hyland Park to the Bloomington Ferry Bridge river crossing.
- \$1.6 million to design and rehabilitate Long Meadow Lake Bridge as a non-motorized trail connection between Hennepin and Dakota Counties' trail systems. This project is funded by federal, state and local sources.

### UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Major utility infrastructure improvements are necessary to maintain and improve sanitary sewer, potable water and storm sewer systems in the City. In 2014, \$1.2 million will be used to recondition the Valley View Water Tower.

### TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

The following major transportation improvements will be taking place in 2014.

- \$3.5 million from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) for substantial rehabilitation to the 94th Street Bridge over I-35W.
- \$1 million budgeted by MNDOT to plan for a future I-494 and I-35W interchange project for eventual staged improvements that will cost approximately \$230 million.
- \$2.1 million for traffic management improvements on City streets in the South Loop District. This is funded primarily by a federal transportation grant.

### PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Pavement Management Program is a funding and implementation plan for repair, maintenance and reconstruction of Bloomington roadways. After needs are identified, funding is provided through state aids, assessments and an annual levy. This program strategically plans for repair and replacement, and maximizes process efficiency by identifying the optimum time to replace or repair streets.

In 2014, approximately \$8,825,000 will be invested in street reconstruction, which will be funded through debt service, and \$2,884,000 will be spent on overlaying existing pavement.

## DEBT SERVICE

Many community needs must be cost-effectively met by the City of Bloomington, including street and infrastructure work, construction projects and equipment purchases. The ability to issue future debt at lower interest rates will provide for our community's upkeep and renewal without substantially increasing property taxes for debt service.

### OUTSTANDING DEBT

The City's total outstanding debt on December 31, 2013, was \$73,160,000. The total legal debt limit for Bloomington is \$296 million. The City's net debt per capita is \$525. See right. Refunding bonds of \$11,320,000, which were paid on February 1, 2014, are included in the amounts listed at right. More than 85 percent of Bloomington's debt will be paid off in 10 years – a sign of strong financial management. The City sees no significant increases in the future.

#### CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BONDS

|                                 |           |                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds | \$        | 5,140,000         |
| G.O. Improvement Bonds          |           | 60,125,000        |
| G.O. Tax Increment Bonds        |           | 3,095,000         |
| Capital Improvement Plan Bonds  |           | 4,800,000         |
| SUBTOTAL                        | \$        | 73,160,000        |
| Less: Funds on hand             |           | (27,682,870)      |
| <b>TOTAL NET DEBT</b>           | <b>\$</b> | <b>45,477,130</b> |
| <b>NET DEBT per capita</b>      | <b>\$</b> | <b>525</b>        |

| 2012 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES | 2013 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | 2014 PROJECTED EXPENDITURES |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| \$20,635,362             | \$16,387,814                | \$45,424,425                |



| 2012 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES | 2013 BUDGET  | 2013 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | 2014 BUDGET  | AVERAGE NET PROPERTY TAX PER MONTH |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| \$10,032,047             | \$10,592,015 | \$11,002,187                | \$20,150,327 | \$7.35                             |

### ABOUT THIS REPORT

The City Council presents this corporate report of financial and related information to show how Bloomington's city government performs. This report does not include Housing and Redevelopment Authority or Port Authority budgets.

#### Mayor

Gene Winstead, 952-888-1258 (h); gwinstead@BloomingtonMN.gov

#### Councilmembers

Council@BloomingtonMN.gov  
Jack Baloga, 952-944-5194 (h)  
Tim Busse, 952-457-7506 (h)  
Cynthia Bemis Abrams, 952-833-0505 (h)  
Andrew Carlson, 952-242-5658 (h)  
Dwayne Lowman, 952-479-0226 (h)  
Jon Oleson, 651-208-6586 (c)

#### City Manager

Mark Bernhardson, 952-563-8780  
citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov

### COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The City of Bloomington reports financial year-end results in the approximately 200-page *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report* (CAFR). The *Corporate Report to the Community* summarizes significant data from the 2013 CAFR and the 2014 Annual Budget, and is consistent with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The report reflects the net tax cost by service expenditure developed by crediting related revenues against appropriate expenditures and allocating local taxes against the remaining balance.

The *Corporate Report to the Community* is unaudited. This popular report format has been used and improved for the past 14 years and is also available on our website. Audited numbers will appear on our website in June.

For a complete review of the City's financial position for 2013, consult the 2013 CAFR, available from the Hennepin County Library, Bloomington Finance Department or the City's website after June 30, 2014. For more information on the 2014 Annual Budget, visit the City's website or call 952-563-8790.

### WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT BLOOMINGTON?

“I love the small-town feel. I've lived here for more than 60 years, put two kids through school here, and I've never

wanted to live anywhere else. The people are exceptionally kind.”

Nancy Allison, 60-year resident





# WATER QUALITY REPORT

FOR BLOOMINGTON, MN • 2013 TEST RESULTS



JUNE 2014

## INSIDE

- WQR 2 Where does your tap water come from?
- WQR 3 FAQs.
- WQR 4 2013 Water quality results.

## MAKING SAFE DRINKING WATER

THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON works hard to provide you with high-quality, safe, reliable drinking water that meets every federal and state water quality requirement. This report contains information about the sources, treatment process and history of our water system. The results of water quality monitoring on Bloomington’s water sources from January 1 to December 31, 2013, by the Minnesota Department of Health, the city of Minneapolis and Bloomington’s laboratories can be found on page WQR4.

The City’s goal is to advance residents’ understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

## GET INVOLVED

Public Works welcomes input on water quality issues. Contact the Water Quality Supervisor at 952-563-4905.

If you have questions about your water or need assistance, give us a call or visit the City’s website at [BloomingtonMN.gov](http://BloomingtonMN.gov).

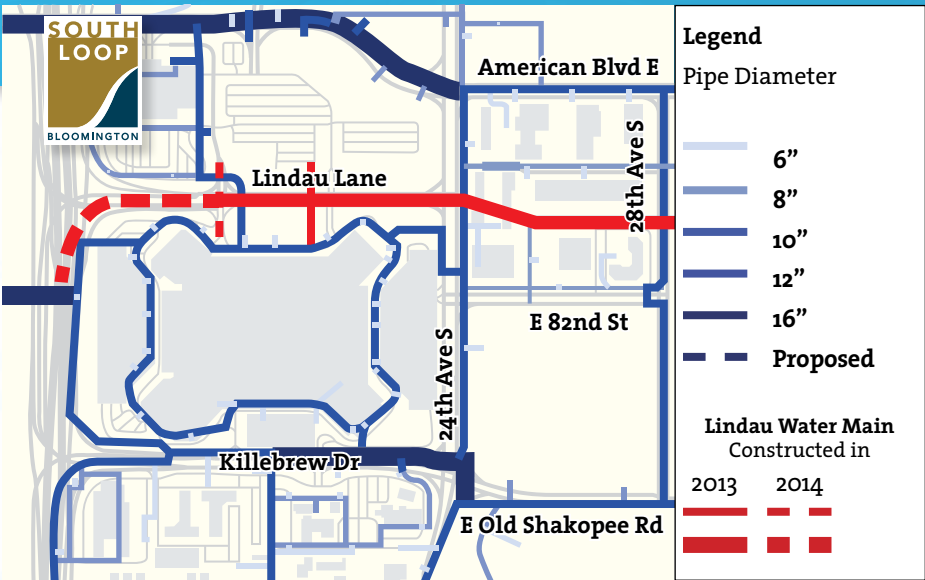
- Water Plant (24 hours a day) 952-563-4905
- TTY (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., M - F) 952-563-8740

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Si necesita una traducción del mismo, sírvase llamar al 952-563-4944 V/TTY.

Bản báo cáo này có các thông tin rất quan trọng. Nếu quý vị cần bản dịch tiếng Việt, xin gọi số 952-563-4944 V/TTY.

Warbixintaan waxaa ku jira macluumaad aad muhiim u ah. Haddii aad u baahan tahay in lagu turjumo, fadlan la xiriiir 952-563-4944 V/TTY.

## WATER DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SOUTH LOOP DISTRICT



In 2013, the City began a project to construct more than 5,000 feet of underground water main piping to accommodate increased water demand in the South Loop. The increase provides extra capacity for the Mall of America expansion and future development projects around Bloomington Central Station.

The City’s goal is to make adjustments to new distribution piping in coordination with both new private building development and street reconstruction projects in order to minimize costly street resurfacing projects in the future. Prior to construction, Utilities used computerized hydraulic water models and historic test data to gauge the impact of changes to the water main system to ensure adequate water flow for consumption and fire protection purposes. The South Loop District water main project is expected to be completed in 2014.

The project was funded through a Department of Energy and Economic Development grant, South Loop and Utilities capital funds and tax increment financing.

## UTILITY SERVICES RANK HIGHLY

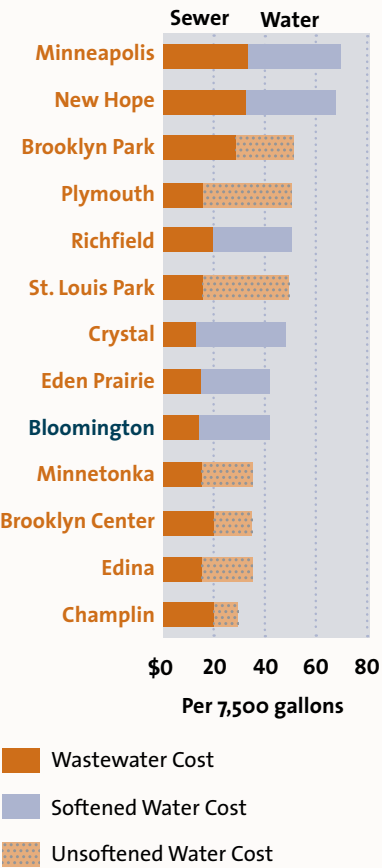
In a 2013 community survey conducted by the National Research Center in which thousands of residents were contacted to get their views of Bloomington, 89 percent rated the City’s drinking water as excellent or good, and 88 percent ranked the City’s sewer services as excellent or good. In a comparison to 21 peer cities similar to Bloomington in size, location and population, Bloomington ranks #1 when it comes to drinking water and sewer services. For complete survey results, visit the City’s website.



WEBSITE KEYWORDS: 2013 SURVEY.

## BLOOMINGTON UTILITIES AT WORK UPDATING AND RENEWING VITAL UTILITY ASSETS

### 2013 MONTHLY COSTS FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES



In the 2013 community survey, see article above, 87 percent of residents said that repairing aging infrastructure was important to address over the next five years. The Comprehensive Asset Management Program (CAMP) is one way the City prepares for repairing or replacing aging utility infrastructure. The program helps aid the decision-making and prioritization process of utility asset rehabilitation and replacement. Utility assets in Bloomington include water mains, sewer mains, manholes, valves, hydrants, towers, pumps, motors and reservoirs.

Bloomington’s utility rates are very competitive. See chart at left. Asset renewal planning and capital budgeting will continue to be driven by CAMP. The predictive features of the program will help determine future water and sewer infrastructure renewal and replacement needs. This will assist the City in preparing long-term financial models and ultimately setting utility rates that will cover the costs necessary to systematically address the upgrades and

replacement of the aging systems.

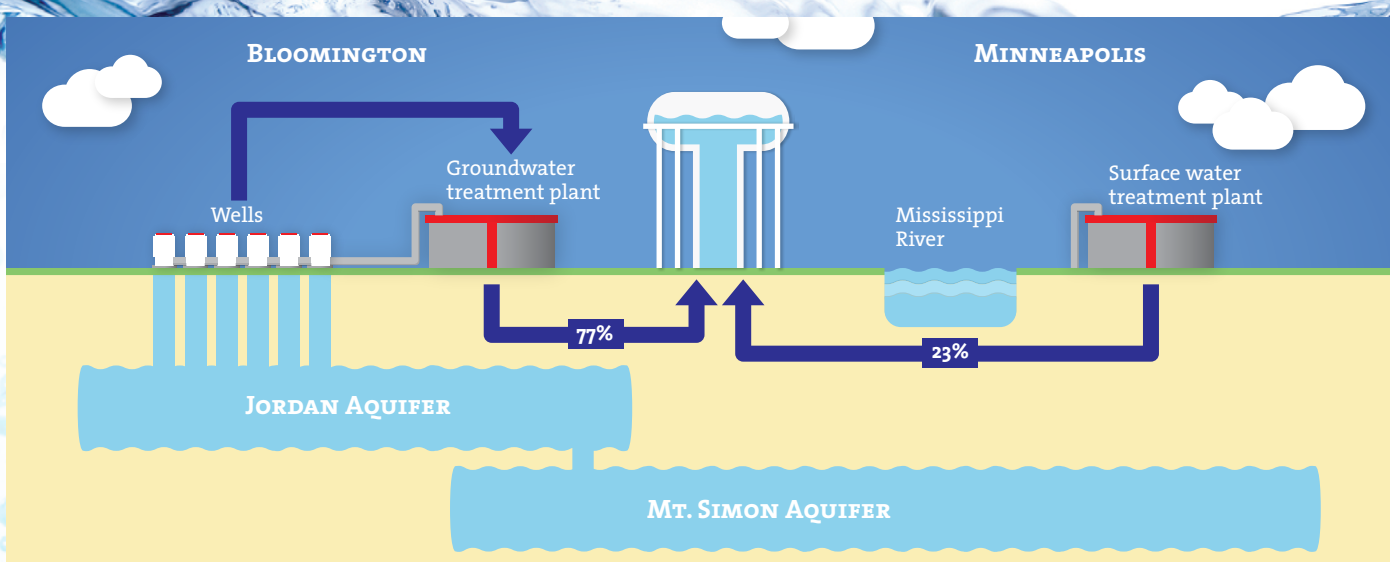
By analyzing CAMP data and budgeting for needed improvements, the City is able to minimize significant fluctuations in rates.

In 2013, several wastewater lift station pumps, two municipal water wells and a chlorine scrubber were rehabilitated or replaced. Wastewater pumps must be updated every several years to ensure that motors continue to run efficiently and are able to accommodate increased wastewater flows. The City’s municipal wells are rehabilitated on an as-needed basis. Approximately 99 percent of Bloomington homeowners and businesses rely on these wells for a significant portion of their water year-round. City municipal wells provide safe and reliable water to these customers.

Planned future infrastructure renewal projects include updating the Valley View water tower, and modifications and additional upgrades to the sanitary, water, and storm sewer systems in the South Loop District.



# THE SOURCE OF BLOOMINGTON'S TAP WATER



## FIVE REASONS TO DRINK MORE WATER

1. Helps to maintain healthy body weight by increasing metabolism and regulating appetite.
2. Leads to increased energy levels. The most common cause of daytime fatigue is mild dehydration.
3. Decreases the risk of certain types of cancers.
4. Prevents and alleviates some types of headaches.
5. Naturally moisturizes and revitalizes skin.

INTERESTING AND USEFUL WATER FACTS ©  
ALLABOUTWATER.ORG

## BLOOMINGTON WELLS FULFILLED 77 PERCENT OF WATER NEEDS IN 2013

The City's water plant draws raw (untreated) groundwater from six deep wells. The wells extend downward between 376 and 963 feet into the Jordan, Prairie du Chien-Jordan, Franconia-Mount Simon and Jordan-St. Lawrence Aquifers, porous underground rock formations that hold vast amounts of water.

In 2013, the City drew 3.14 billion gallons of water, 76 percent of Bloomington's needs, from these deep groundwater wells. The City continues to monitor water usage and takes appropriate actions to encourage wise water use. In addition, the City is conducting a wellhead protection study to ensure Bloomington well water continues to be safe.

## MISSISSIPPI RIVER SUPPLIED 23 PERCENT OF WATER NEEDS IN 2013

To meet demand that exceeds production capabilities during peak periods, Bloomington purchases treated water from the city of Minneapolis. Treated water from our plant is blended with similarly treated water from Minneapolis and sent throughout Bloomington's distribution system. All of Bloomington's consumers receive a blend of water from these two sources.

Minneapolis' surface water treatment plant takes its raw water from the Mississippi River. In 2013, Bloomington purchased nearly 942 million gallons of water from Minneapolis, which supplied the remaining 24 percent of Bloomington's water needs.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: WATER TREATMENT.

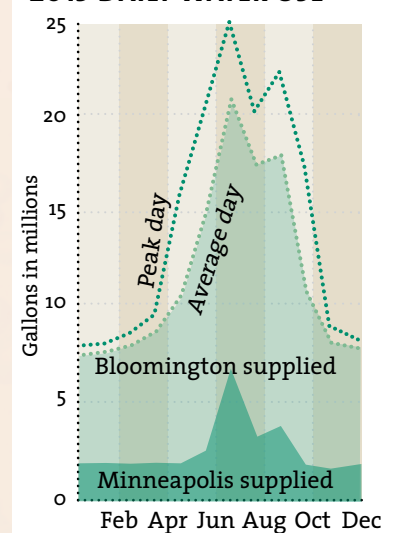
## HOW MUCH IS USED?

In 2013, residents and businesses in Bloomington used almost 4.1 billion gallons of water, 474 million fewer than 2012. The average was 11.12 million gallons of water per day last year.

The chart below shows the peak day and average day of water use for each month during 2013, as well as the average amount of water treated at the City's plant and purchased from Minneapolis. To get a more accurate picture of the actual water consumed, peak day data was adjusted to account for fluctuations in the City's reservoir levels.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: WATER USAGE.

### 2013 DAILY WATER USE



## WATER TREATMENT PROCESS

**1** The softening process begins when lime, in the form of slakened quicklime, is mixed with raw water in one of the City's two contact solids basins. Each basin holds about half a million gallons of water.

**2** The lime-and-water mixture causes a chemical reaction that results in calcium and magnesium (the main components of hardness) forming insoluble particles called flocs. As these floc particles grow in size, they settle to the bottom of the contact solids basins. The solids are removed, dewatered and used as a USDA-approved source of lime by Minnesota farmers to stabilize the pH in farm fields.

**3** The water enters a recarbonation basin where it is adjusted to the proper

pH by adding carbon dioxide. A precise amount of chlorine is added to discourage bacterial growth as the water travels through the City's distribution system.

**4** The water is filtered to remove any remaining particles. Then it enters an underground reservoir called a clearwell where small quantities of fluoride and ammonia are added. Because fluoride promotes strong teeth and bones, fluoridation is mandated by state law at a dosage of 0.9 - 1.5 parts per million. *See page 4.* Ammonia works with the chlorine as a disinfectant. Now softened and disinfected, the water is ready for use by residents and businesses.

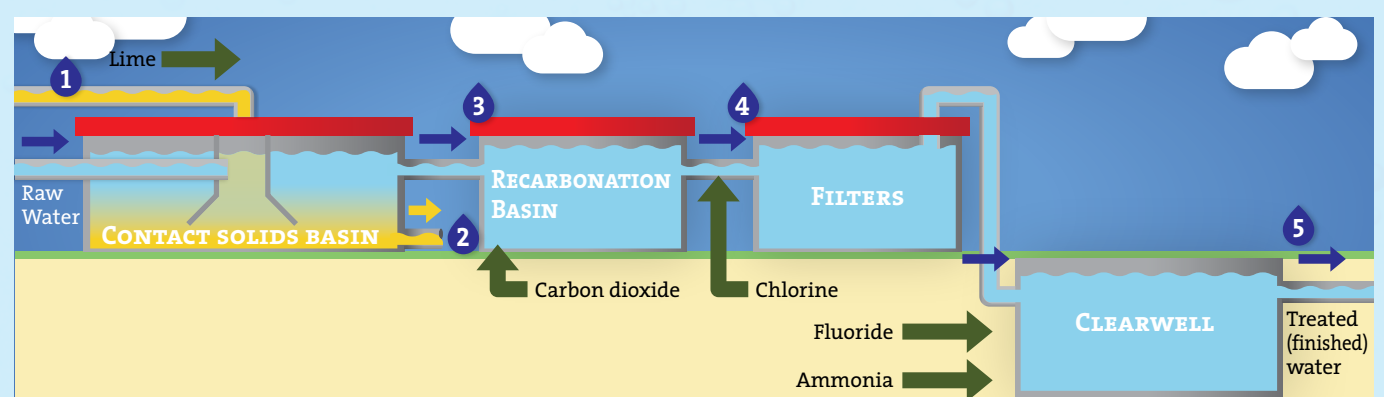
**5** The finished water from the City's treatment plant is pumped into the distribution system, where it is mixed with treated

## WATER TESTING

The Tri-City/William Lloyd Analytical Laboratory is certified by the Minnesota Department of Health to treat and test water. In 2013, the lab performed more than 12,000 tests on Bloomington's water and analyzed approximately 21,274 samples. The lab also analyzed 110 state-mandated bacteria tests for new water main construction projects and conducted 190 water quality tests on Bloomington's surface water bodies.

water purchased from the city of Minneapolis.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: TREATMENT PROCESS.



**St. Cloud Technical College**

## A CAREER IN THE WATER INDUSTRY IS WAITING FOR YOU!

St. Cloud Technical College's Water Environment Technologies program provides you with the skills you need to land a great job in this rapidly growing industry.

There are many benefits to this program:

- Hands-on learning.
- Twelve-month program.
- Metro and St. Cloud locations.
- Ninety-five percent placement rates.

For more information on this career program, call St. Cloud Technical and Community College at 320-308-5952 or email instructor Bill Spain at [bspain@sctcc.edu](mailto:bspain@sctcc.edu).





## SHOULD I GET A WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM?

Because Bloomington's water surpasses all federal and state standards, home filtration systems are not necessary. However, if you choose to purchase a filtration system for aesthetic or medical reasons, keep the following in mind:

- Find out if the filter you are considering is capable of removing substances that concern you.
- Look for filters that have been certified by NSF International (an independent testing group) and Underwriters Laboratory (UL).
- Follow the manufacturer's maintenance instructions carefully for usage and filter replacement frequency guidelines.



## WATER SOFTENING

The City's lime-softening process removes most of the hardness in Bloomington's water, reducing it from 19 grains per gallon to about 5.2 grains per gallon finished water. (Zero grains water is ultra soft, 19 grains is considered raw.) The water is also treated to be noncorrosive. This helps prevent unsafe levels of lead and copper from leaching into the water from home plumbing. Home softening systems can further reduce water hardness, usually by adding a small amount of sodium.

Bloomington is one of 24 Minnesota municipal utilities that softens water, which means homeowners do not need to supplement with a private water-softening system.

It is estimated that the cost to soften water at home ranges between \$4.42 and \$4.82 per 1,000 gallons of water, compared to 23 cents per 1,000 gallons of City-treated water.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT BLOOMINGTON'S WATER

## WHY IS THE WATER FROM MY FAUCET CLOUDY?

Occasionally, the City receives calls about water that appears cloudy or milky. Usually indicating the presence of either oxygen or calcium, cloudy water is perfectly safe to drink.

**Oxygen in water:** Sometimes water fresh from the tap appears cloudy. Within a minute or two, the cloudiness rises toward the top of a glass and before long the whole glass is crystal clear. This is caused by excess oxygen escaping from the water.

Changes in water temperature and pressure can cause the oxygen dissolved in it to reach a supersaturated state where more oxygen is in the water than it can hold. When the water passes through a faucet, the disturbance is enough to release the excess oxygen out of the water, forming microscopic bubbles. The bubbles are so tiny that it takes them a long time to rise through the water. No harm will come from using oxygenated water, and you need not take any corrective action if you experience it.

**Calcium in water:** The chemistry of water is surprisingly complex, and many factors influence how it behaves. The City treats Bloomington's water so that it is slightly prone to deposit a trace of calcium sediment as it travels through our distribution system. This reduces the likelihood that it might corrode water mains or leach lead or copper from customers' plumbing and fixtures. *See right.* Usually, this calcium sediment remains at the bottom of the water mains, unnoticed by water users.

However, the calcium can be stirred up when a large volume of water is



drawn through a water main in a short time. Events that can increase water velocity include firefighting, water main breaks, hydrant maintenance and filling water or street-cleaning trucks' tanks at a hydrant. If you happen to turn on your cold water right after such an event, you may draw some of the stirred-up water into your pipes.

When calcium causes cloudiness, it is usually noticed in cold water. Let a glassful of the cloudy water sit for about 30 minutes and the calcium, appearing as a white or grayish substance, may settle to the bottom of the glass. Though it may be visually unappealing, such water is perfectly safe to drink or use for cooking.

To clean calcium sediment from your system, we recommend that you wait an hour or two to allow the water in the main to settle. Then, open a large faucet, such as a bathtub faucet, and let the cold water run for about 20 minutes. This will draw clean water through your system and should remove any remaining calcium from your pipes.

If you have any concerns or if your water remains cloudy after taking these steps, call 952-563-4905.

## FOR PEOPLE WITH COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEMS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, or people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk of infections.

These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water. Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on



appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791.

Approximately 85 percent of U.S. residents receive their water from public water facilities. The remaining 15 percent supply their own water from private wells or other sources.

WATER FACTS © ALLABOUTWATER.ORG.



## LEAD IN WATER

Lead in drinking water is primarily from the components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the materials used in home plumbing.

### Minimizing exposure to lead

Lead pipes, solder, brass faucets and other plumbing in your home pose the greatest threat of adding dangerous levels of lead to your water. A few simple practices can minimize your exposure to lead from your home.

First, always use cold water for your cooking and drinking. If your plumbing contains lead, hot water will draw more lead out of it. Second, allow your cold water to run for 30 seconds to two minutes. This flushes out any water that may have been in your pipes long enough to pick up higher concentrations of lead. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may have your water tested.

The presence of lead ranks among the most common health concerns people have about drinking water. Recent studies suggest that levels of lead once thought to be safe can pose risks, especially to unborn babies and children.

If present, infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Fortunately, over years of regular and rigorous monitoring, Bloomington's water has never been found to be a significant source of lead.

For more information, call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead). If you are concerned about your home's lead levels, our laboratory can test your water for a fee.





WATER PURITY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Drinking water sources in the United States, both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, sometimes, radioactive material. Water also picks up substances resulting from animal or human activity.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulates contaminants in bottled water to provide the same public health protection.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be expected to contain reasonably small amounts of some contaminants. Their presence does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE UNTREATED WATER

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can occur naturally or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.

Pesticides and herbicides come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

2013 WATER QUALITY RESULTS

The Minnesota Department of Health and City staff regularly test samples of Bloomington’s water for many contaminants. Some substances were detected in trace amounts in the drinking water. Only those substances that were detected appear on the table; many results are not listed because the substances were not found at any time in 2013 by tests designed to detect them. Some substances are tested less than once per year; in such cases, the most recent results and the test dates are reported.

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) established. These “unregulated contaminants” are assessed using federal standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its customers and take corrective actions.

The table’s upper portion summarizes test results performed on Bloomington water. The lower portion

shows results for Minneapolis water because we blend Minneapolis treated surface water with the Bloomington Water Plant’s treated groundwater.

The Minnesota Department of Health has made a determination as to how vulnerable Bloomington’s source water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-888-345-0823 during normal business hours, or view the assessment online at [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

| Detected substance            | Amount detected                    | Maximum (MCL)  | Target (MCLG) | Typical source of substance  | Type | Meets standards? |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--|------|------------------|
| CITY OF BLOOMINGTON           |                                    |                |               |  |      |                  |
| Chlorine (ppm)                | Avg. = 2.17 (1.8 to 2.3)           | 4 MRDL         | 4 MRDLG       | Water additive used to control microbes  | R    | Yes              |
| Copper (ppm) (8/3/2011)       | 90% = 0.03 (0 of 30 sites over AL) | AL = 1.3       | 1.3           | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits   | R    | Yes              |
| Fluoride (ppm)                | Avg. = 0.98 (0.81 to 1.1)          | 4              | 4             | State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories | R    | Yes              |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | Avg. = 15.4 (nd to 27.7)           | 60             | 0             | By-product of drinking water disinfection  | R    | Yes              |
| Lead (ppb) (8/3/2011)         | 90% = 5 (2 of 30 sites over AL)    | AL = 15        | 0             | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits<br>See page WQR 3.  | R    | Yes              |
| Sodium (ppm) (07/10/2012)     | 5.7                                | U              | U             | Erosion of natural deposits  | U    | NA               |
| Sulfate (ppm) (07/10/2012)    | 14.6                               | U              | U             | Erosion of natural deposits  | U    | NA               |
| Total Coliform Bacteria       | Avg. = 1% **                       | >5% present    | 0 present     | Naturally present in the environment   | R    | Yes              |
| Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)  | Avg. = 15.35 (.4 to 23)            | 80 (.4 to 2.2) | 0             | By-product of drinking water disinfection  | R    | Yes              |

|                               |                                    |             |           |  |   |     |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--|---|-----|
| CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS           |                                    |             |           |  |   |     |
| Chlorine (ppm)                | Avg. = 3.28 (2.9 to 3.4)           | 4 MRDL      | 4 MRDLG   | Water additive used to control microbes  | R | Yes |
| Copper (ppm) (7/26/2012)      | 90% = 0.07 (0 of 51 sites over AL) | AL = 1.3    | 1.3       | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits   | R | Yes |
| Fluoride (ppm)                | Avg. = 0.97 (0.9 to 0.98)          | 4           | 4         | State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories | R | Yes |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | Avg. = 33.38 (nd to 44.8)          | 60          | 0         | By-product of drinking water disinfection  | R | Yes |
| Lead (ppb) (7/26/2012)        | 90% = 3.2(1 of 50 sites over AL)   | AL = 15     | 0         | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits   | R | Yes |
| Nitrate (as nitrogen) (ppm)   | 0.26                               | 10.4        | 10.4      | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from sewage; erosion of natural deposits  | U | NA  |
| Sodium (ppm)                  | 12.6                               | U           | U         | Erosion of natural deposits  | U | NA  |
| Sulfate (ppm)                 | 28.4                               | U           | U         | Erosion of natural deposits  | U | NA  |
| Total Coliform Bacteria       | Avg. = 1% **                       | >5% present | 0 present | Naturally present in the environment   | R | Yes |
| Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)  | Avg. 39.13 (9.1 to 57.7)           | 80          | 0         | By-product of drinking water disinfection  | R | Yes |
| Turbidity (NTU)               | 0.28                               | TT          | NA        | Soil runoff  | R | Yes |

| Detected substance   | Unit      | Removal achieved | Removal required | Typical source of substance          | Quarters out of compliance |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS  |           |                  |                  |                                      |                            |
| Total organic carbon | % Removed | 46.4 to 60.2%    | 25 to 30%        | Naturally present in the environment | 0                          |
| KEY                  |           |                  |                  |                                      |                            |

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. Below this level there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

U Unregulated, but monitoring is required by the State of Minnesota. No limits have been set for this compound.

R Regulated.

NA Not Applicable.

AL Action Level. An amount that, if exceeded, triggers a specific response that a water system must follow.

TT Treatment Technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant.

ppb Parts Per Billion. Units of a substance, in pure form, found in every billion units of water.

ppm Parts Per Million. Units of a substance, in pure form, found in every

million units of water.

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. A measure of water clarity.

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

90% Value obtained after disregarding the 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels.

cfu Colony Forming Unit.

nd No Detection.

● \*\* Follow-up sampling showed no contamination present.